

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1, 3, 4, and 6 through 12 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please add Claims 13 through 26 as follows:

1 - 12. (Cancelled)

13. (New) A control method in a printing control apparatus capable of executing printing processing of a predetermined output method using a plurality of member printers, said method comprising:

a first providing step of providing, when a virtual printer set to a first output method is designated, a first user interface of the virtual printer by performing a conflict process of functions of the plurality of member printers; and

a second providing step of providing, when the virtual printer set to a second output method is designated, a second user interface corresponding to a printer driver of a representative member printer of the plurality of member printers without performing the conflict process.

14. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the second output method comprises a redirect printing method system which automatically switches, when an error occurs in a printer to which a print job has been transmitted, to another printer of the plurality of member printers.

15. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the first output method comprises a distributed printing method which distributes a print job to the plurality of member printers for pages.

16. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the second user interface comprises a user interface of a printer driver of the representative member printer and a user interface of a printer driver of the virtual printer.

17. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the user interface of the printer driver of the virtual printer in the second output method contains a setting item for creating intermediate data.

18. (New) The method according to claim 13, further comprising a designation step of issuing, to the member printer, a designation of converting a drawing instruction based on intermediate data created on the basis of application data into a predetermined page description language.

19. (New) A printing control apparatus capable of executing printing processing of a predetermined output method using a plurality of member printers, said apparatus comprising:

first providing means for providing, when a virtual printer set to a first output method is designated, a first user interface of the virtual printer by performing a conflict process of functions of the plurality of member printers; and

second providing means for providing, when the virtual printer set to a second output method is designated, a second user interface corresponding to a printer driver of a representative member printer of the plurality of member printers without performing the conflict process.

20. (New) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the second output method comprises a redirect printing method system which automatically switches, when an error occurs in a printer to which a print job has been transmitted, to another printer of the plurality of member printers.

21. (New) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the first output method comprises a distributed printing method which distributes a print job to the plurality of member printers for pages.

22. (New) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the second user interface comprises a user interface of a printer driver of the representative member printer and a user interface of a printer driver of the virtual printer.

23. (New) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the user interface of the printer driver of the virtual printer in the second output method contains a setting item for creating intermediate data.

24. (New) The apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising designation means for issuing, to the member printer, a designation of converting a drawing instruction based on intermediate data created on the basis of application data into a predetermined page description language.

25. (New) A computer-readable storage medium having a computer-executable program stored thereon for effecting the method according to claim 13.

26. (New) A computer-executable program stored on an apparatus-readable storage medium for effecting the method according to claim 13.